

To Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1074 without my signature.

This bill mandates that if a boxer is suspended for 30 days for their medical protection, due to a hard fight, a knockout or a technical decision, they must also take an additional neurological examination.

Currently, the physicians and surgeons on site have discretion to require boxers to have additional tests after boxers are knocked out or seriously injured. The medical community, involved with the profession of boxing, currently makes recommendations and takes necessary precautionary measures that will ensure the health and safety of these boxers.

Under current law, these types of special examinations require the boxer and the California Athletic Commission to share the cost of these types of examinations. This bill mandates requirements on the Commission at a time when the Commission is facing financial difficulties to meet its current mandates.

Finally, the Commission states that over 10,000 boxers have taken the exam and only one has failed it. The Commission, along with the neurologists who have conducted over 80% of the examinations, believe the test is not an accurate measure of damage to the brain and therefore provides little safety protection for the boxer.

For the above reasons I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger